

REMARKS

The Office Action of July 1, 2003 has been carefully reviewed and this response addresses the Examiner's concerns. Claims 46, 47, 52, 53, and 55 were pending in the application. Claims 46, 47, 52, 53 and 55, although previously allowed, stand rejected in the present Office Action. Claims 56 and 57 are added.

Specifically, claims 46, 47, 52, 53 and 55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Bock et al. (US 4,831,092).

Bock discloses a polymer for use in the clean up of waste water, especially waste water containing organic contaminants such as oil. The polymer of Bock is polymerized from a homogenous solution of acrylamide, a hydrophobic monomer and a water soluble cationic monomer, where the solution is formed using a cationic or nonanionic surfactant or a mixture thereof. The cationic monomer is selected from the group consisting of salts of ammoniumalkyl(meth)acrylamides, ammoniumalkyl(-meth)acrylates or diallyl dialkyl ammonium salts (see col. 5, lines 61-64).

The present invention teaches a cationic vinyl addition polymer for use as a drainage and retention aid in papermaking comprising at least one non-ionic monomer having a non-aromatic hydrophobic monomer, at least one cationic monomer, and (meth)acrylamide, all as specifically claimed in pending claim 46.

To anticipate a claim, the single prior art reference must contain all of the elements of the claim. Bock does not teach, suggest or disclose all of the cationic monomer components as claimed by the present invention.

Further, there is no teaching suggestion or disclosure in Bock that would indicate to one skilled in the art to substitute all of the cationic monomer components of

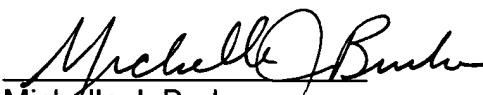
the present invention for the cationic monomer components in Bock in order to arrive at the claimed invention.

Thus, for the reasoning set forth above, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner find the present application in condition for immediate allowance.

In accordance with Section 714.01 of the M.P.E.P., the following information is presented in the event that the Examiner may deem a call desirable:

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Respectfully submitted,


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